Garrison Aide Says U.S. Trapped Him

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NEW ORLEANS — (AP) — A former chief investigator for District Attorney Jim Garrison says the U.S. Justice Department forced him to entrap his former boss, who has been charged in a federal gambling case.

The charge was made by Pershing Gervais during a TV interview conducted in British Columbia, where Gervais is living under the name of Paul Mason with his wife and two children.

Gervais said that, although the government had gotten him an $18,000-a-year job with General Motors of Canada, he was unhappy with his role in Garrison's arrest.

U.S. Attorney General Kleindienst, when asked the TV report, said he was aware of it but that court rules would not allow him to comment on a pending case.

Garrison was not available for comment. But in a letter to The Time-Picayune today he said that the Justice Department "is corrupt beyond any possible description."

He has said repeatedly that he was framed.